

Lorraine Brown



I have never really thought of myself as special or lovable or worthy of love, and for many many years this is how I lived my life and how I viewed myself. Like many others I was a product of a dysfunctional family. I had a mother who did the best she knew, but she came from a dysfunctional family cycle, so she was doomed to repeat it. My mother despised me and all that I stood for. I was always happy on the outside, outgoing in school and very popular. I was blonde, blues eyes, and had a nice figure (so everyone told me; I thought and felt the opposite). Home was a gloomy dreary place even though we attended church regularly every Sunday. I like to say it was exercise class because I went to a church where I was in the dark most of the time, mainly because I had never mastered Latin; I knew nothing about my faith.

I was always the caregiver in my family. It was in my blood. My mother got sick when I was about 15 with a serious heart condition that required surgery. It was also at this time my step-dad decide it was time for him to start fooling around, and I was the only one who knew. When I exposed him, he left and my mother blamed me. As always it was my fault, he left on the eve of her first open heart surgery, leaving me at 16 to deal with that and care for my younger brother who was my Mom's angel and my nightmare...he was a brat and then some!! I did all of this while in school and soon thereafter life became a roller- coaster. My step-dad would be gone for three months...come home for three months. After the third time, I refused to come home, so Mom called the police. It was really bad. Thank heaven I had a boyfriend whose parents were wonderful affluent people. Eventually, my boyfriend's Mom told my parents that I was pregnant. They made me see a doctor. Well, the game was up! After all, the only virgin I knew who ever got pregnant was Jesus' Mother. So, I was forced to stop seeing him and life went on, sad but lonely but I was the best actress. No one ever knew the pain I went through in my life. I decided to move to Pennsylvania and find my real Dad. Well, that was a disaster because my Mother passed away during this time. At 18, I was left alone and hurt with a brother who was mad at the world, a car that had to be sold to pay bills, and a funeral to plan.

I worked for Wendy's for years, married a man just to get married. I loved the idea of being married, and after 4 years we had a son. Strange how you find out you're pregnant after 3 miscarriages on the day you are planning to leave a man. My ex-husband had substance abuse issues, never held a steady job, and we were always poor, but I gave it my all. I left three times, but I

always came back, thinking things would get better. Truly each time I left, I asked God "What did I ever do that was so wrong?" I was so mad at God...you hear me? Mad, as mad as could be!! I ended up writing a lot of hot checks time and time again to pay the bills and ended up with a one-way ticket to a new life, but at the time I thought it was a one-way ticket to hell.

I ended up in Dawson State Jail, a co-ed facility for men and women, with 24 months on my hands, and an attitude to beat all. I was placed in a regular dorm then went back to the county, and sent back to Dawson again. It was on my return I ended up in HOPE Literacy. I'm here to tell you I was not a happy camper, but as the days went by and I stopped fighting, I truly learned to open my heart and my ears and shut my mouth. I learned that the only thing that the Lord had done to me was to carry me through all this stuff, and He was standing there with His arms stretched open wide. I had just been too blind to see it. Mrs. Lucy and Mrs. Linda both put their arms around me, and told me they loved me. For the first time in my 40+ years I felt real love, love that asked nothing of me. I learned to use the past as what not to do, but I learned an even more valuable lesson. The Lord loved me unconditionally and always had and that unless I let go of ALL of the past hurt, I would keep hurting. I learned so many things in HOPE. I learned that I was lovable and had the right to be loved. I learned to love myself and to accept myself. A light went off in my head one day and I finally got it! By getting it, I mean I have now been out of Dawson since May 2010. I am currently a full-time student with 62 college credits to my name, and I will graduate in December with an Associates of Science from Weatherford College.

It has only taken me a year to do what takes some people two plus years to do. I have a roof over my head, a car to drive and food in the refrigerator. The best part is that I have the best relationship with the Lord. I make no plans without praying, and believe me I have learned SUBMISSION AND THAT SOMETIMES THE ANSWER IS "NO", AND I CAN ACCEPT THAT TODAY. I know that no one owes me anything and there are always going to be bumps in the road, but today I know that the Lord is there to cushion those bumps. I now say that "I AM NOT JUST A GRADUATE OF HOPE, BUT HOPE IS A PART OF WHO AND WHAT I AM.

I see life differently now!! I am a single Mother. My son is 18 years old, and I am trying to set a good example for him. I teach in the Nursery at church, and until May I was employed full-time. I was injured on the job in May, and I have been off work since, enduring some of the most horrendous treatment for the injury. But nothing I endure can compare to what Christ endured for me, so I am OK.

When I heard about Ambit, another light bulb went off. Everyone needs free electricity but for me I think it was a combination of things that really convinced me. The credibility and integrity of the company fit with my Christian values. My last electricity bill with my former company was \$524.00 for ONE MONTH! I upgraded to Ambit and the following month, my electricity bill was \$161.45. I was quadruple sold! Since I am currently unable to work a regular job, being an Ambit consultant will enable me to

work from home while taking treatments for my injury. Please help me!
Thank you and God bless you.

Please Help Me Start My Business....

Phase One:

Ambit Consultant Fee	\$429
Ambit Website Fees for 6 months	150

Phase One Total	\$579
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Phase Two:

Social Media Training	\$297
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Phase Two Total	\$297
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Phase Three:

Mac Book Air Laptop and Printer + Internet for 6 months	\$1940
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Phase Three Total	\$1940
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Total Business Start Up	\$2816
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